

IN THE DRAWINGS

In FIG. 3A, please delete reference numerals "102, 104".

In FIG. 3B please delete reference numeral "369".

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract with the following version. A version with markings to show changes is provided as Appendix A.

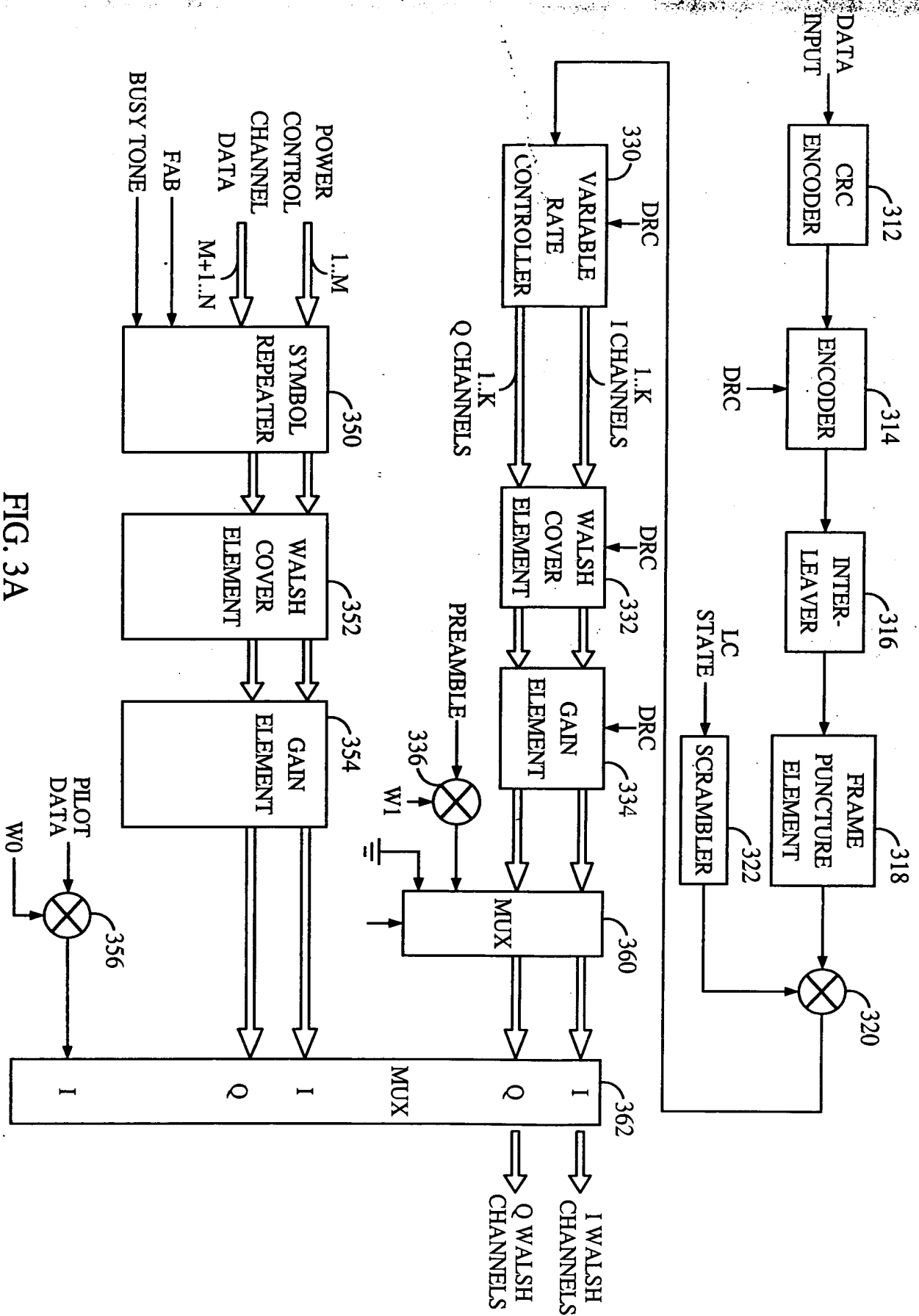
a1
A communication system including a closed loop power control system. Prior to allowing a handoff to a new base station, the subscriber station verifies that its reverse link signal is being received by the destination base station with sufficient energy. The determination is made based on the received reverse link power control commands from the base station. Moreover, a handoff may be forced when the base station providing the best forward link signal is not receiving the reverse link signal from the subscriber station with sufficient energy

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the below-indicated paragraphs with the following rewritten paragraphs. A version with markings to show changes is provided as Appendix B.

Page 2, line 33, fourth full paragraph:

a2
A significant difference between voice services and data services is the fact that the former imposes stringent and fixed delay requirements. Typically, the overall one-way delay of speech frames must be less than 100 msec. In contrast, the data delay can become a variable parameter used to optimize the efficiency of the data communication system. Specifically, more efficient error correcting coding techniques which require significantly larger delays than those that can be tolerated by voice



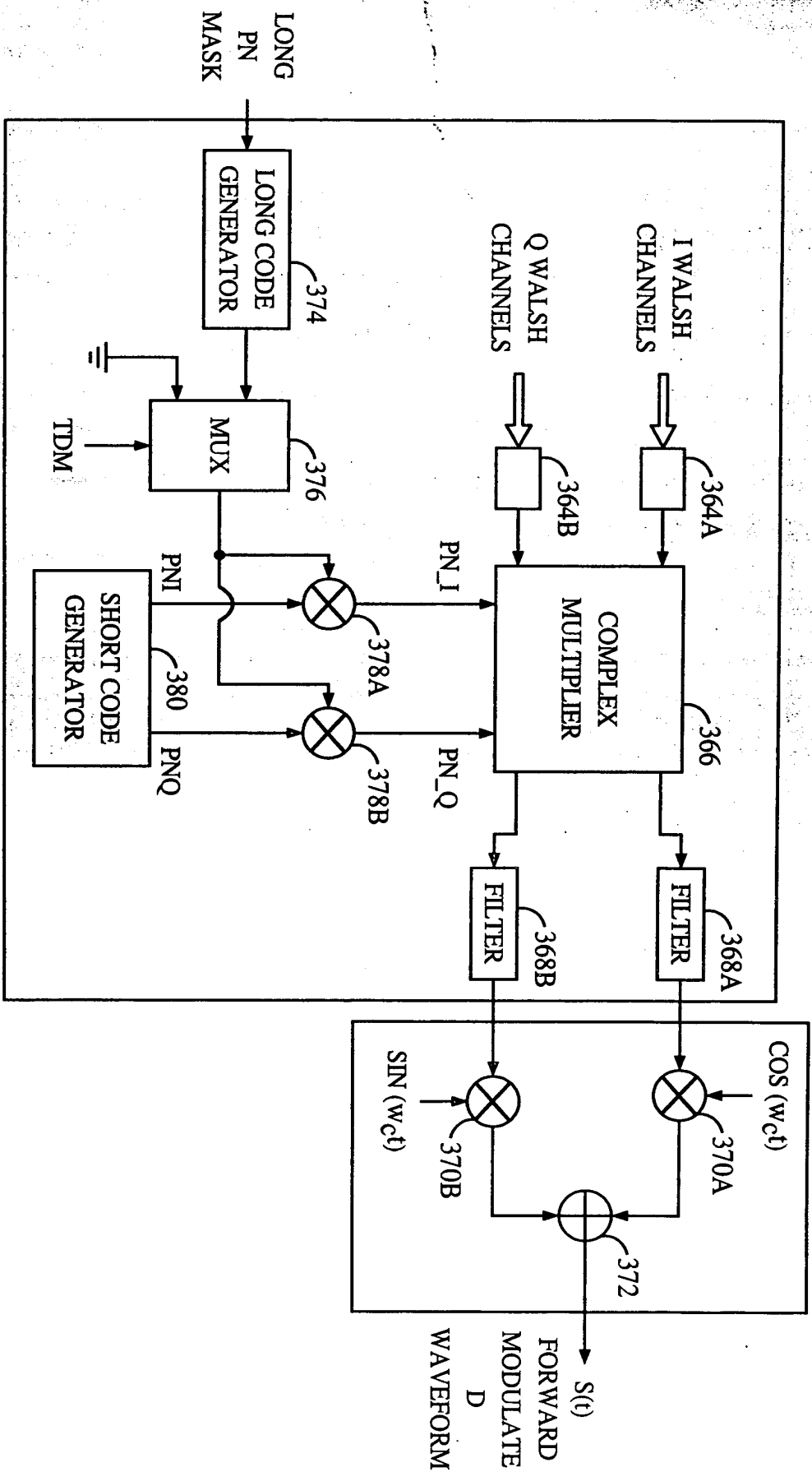


FIG. 3B